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SACRAMENTO MAN INDICTED FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a seven-count indictment charging GEORGE WETTER NEELD, 54, of Sacramento, with distributing and possessing visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Sacramento Valley Hi-Tech Crimes Task Force, Internet Crimes Against Children and the San Bernardino Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Camil A. Skipper, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that NEELD distributed child pornography over the Internet on several occasions in 2003. The indictment also alleges that NEELD possessed child pornography.

If convicted, the penalty under federal law for each count of distribution is 5 to 20 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000. The maximum penalty for the possession count is 10 years imprisonment and a fine up to \$250,000. If convicted of either offense, NEELD will forfeit his computer and floppy diskettes to the Government.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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